Construction of cyclone proof record room and additional courts in Orissa

2966. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Orissa Government has written to Government for 100 per cent Central Assistance for construction of 93 cyclone proof record room and 99 additional courts;

(b) if so, details of the project and the amount of grant asked for; and

(c) whether the Technical Committee of Government has, in principle, approved the proposal and this has been included in the Central Plan Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the Government of Orissa had sought full Central Assistance for construction of 93 Cyclone Proof Record Rooms and 99 Additional Courts at a total cost of Rs. 762 lakhs.

(c) The proposal was considered on 10th August 2002 by the Technical Committee under the Scheme for Strengthening of Revenue Administration & Updating of Land Records (SRA&ULR). Since the Scheme of SRA & ULR envisages 50% contribution by the State Government, it was decided that it would not be possible to agree to the proposal in respect of 100% Central release for the aforesaid activities. The proposal was,however, approved in principle, on 50:50 sharing basis, subject to confirmation of the State Government to this effect and submission of the revised proposal. The State authorities have not responded for taking up the project on 50:50 sharing basis.

Income of rural poor

†2967. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Statesman dated the 27th October, 2002 under the caption "A third of India goes hungry every night";

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.